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REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF

Civil Justice in Oudh,

During the Year ending 31st December, 1887.

ALLAHABAD:

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES AND OUDH GOVERNMENT PRESS.

1888.

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REPORT

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No. 1342 OF 1888.

FROM

W. YOUNG, ESQ., C.S.,

JUDICIAL COMMISSIONER, OUDH,

To

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

N.-W. PROVINCES AND OUDH, JUDICIAL (CIVIL) DEPT.

Dated Lucknow, the 31st August, 1888.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to submit a report, together with the prescribed returns, relating to the Administration of Civil Justice in Oudh during the year ending the 31st December, 1887. The original reports of Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners, District Judges, and Judges of Small Cause Courts are also submitted herewith. The report, though later than last year, could not have been got out now had we not had the temporary aid of a statement compiler, which was received on the 13th July last.

Income and expenditure. Provincial Returns G and H.

2. During 1887 the Civil Courts realized Rs. 4,83,668 on account of net stamp-fees, being Rs. 27,249 in excess of the sum realized in 1886. Details for both years are given below :—

Judgeship.	1886. Rs.	1887. Rs.	*Difference.* Rs.
Lucknow	—1,39,590	1,57,910	+18,320
Sitapur	— 79,238	87,676	+8,438
Fyzabad	—1,06,920	1,15,631	+8,711
Rae Bareli	89,808	95,413	+5,605
Judicial Commissioner's Court ...	40,863	27,038	—13,825

The falling off in the amount of stamp-fees in this Court is owing to fewer first civil appeals being filed in 1887 than in 1886, and the value of the subject-matter of the suits being also smaller, thus causing a difference of Rs. 13,623 under the heading *Ad valorem* fees in 1887 as compared with the figures for 1886.

3. The income and expenditure of all Civil Courts during 1886 and 1887 are given below :—

	1886. Rs.	1887. Rs.	*Difference.* Rs.
Income.			
Net value of stamps	4,56,449	4,83,668	
Duty and penalty on instruments	3,718	3,578	
Fines	191	427	
Process fees	89,421	94,726	
Judicial Record Fund	36,025	35,820	
Total ...	5,85,774	6,18,219	+1,32,445
Expenditure.			
Salaries of officers and establishment ...	3,85,492	3,76,889	
Process-serving establishment	59,128	58,428	
Judicial Record Fund	18,341	18,886	
Total ...	4,62,961	4,54,203	—8,758
Surplus ...	1,22,813	1,64,016	+41,203

4. It will be seen from the above statement that, as compared with the figures for 1886, the income of Civil Courts has increased during 1887 by Rs. 1,32,445 and the expenditure has decreased by Rs. 8,758. The surplus during 1887 was Rs. 41,203 more than it was in 1886; but if one-third only of the expenditure of the Judicial Commissioner's Court were (as it should be) debited to Civil Court charges, the increase in the surplus would be Rs. 84,066 instead of Rs. 41,203 as shown above.

ORDINARY CIVIL COURTS.

IMPERIAL RETURN No. VII. Suits instituted (Ordinary Civil Courts, *i. e.*, exclusive of Small Cause and Rent Courts).

5. The number of suits instituted in ordinary Civil Courts, exclusive of Small Cause and Rent Courts, during 1887 was 42,667, being 5,180 more than were instituted in 1886 and 7,361 in excess of the figures for 1885. The increase during 1887 in the number of suits instituted was thus distributed :—Fyzabad 2,217, Rae Bareli 1,667, Sitapur 771, and Lucknow 711. The average number of cases filed in each Munsifi in the Fyzabad Judgeship was 1,750 per annum, the highest being 2,364 at Kaisarganj and the lowest 1,204 at Tarabganj.

6. These figures point to the necessity of increasing the number of Munsifs' Courts in the Fyzabad Judgeship, but the subject must be separately treated hereafter, and I hope to do so in October next.

7. The Lucknow District Judge writes with reference to the institution of suits :— "The people no doubt have increased confidence in our Courts, and I have found "that *panchayets* not unfrequently refer cases to the Courts instead of deciding them "themselves. It is, however, to be regretted that self-government is dying out. "Again, pleaders become more numerous yearly and their influence is necessarily in "favor of litigation."

IMPERIAL RETURN No. VIII. Value of subject-matter of suits (Ordinary Civil Courts).

8. During 1887, the value of the subject-matter of ordinary civil suits aggregated Rs. 88,34,310, as against Rs. 63,21,072 in 1886, the increase over the figures for 1886 being no less than Rs. 25,14,238. As compared with the figures for 1886, the Fyzabad Judgeship shows an increase of Rs. 10,30,701, Lucknow Judgeship an increase of Rs. 10,03,960, Rae Bareli Judgeship an increase of Rs. 6,32,749, but the Sitapur Judgeship shows a *decrease* of Rs. 1,53,172.

In the Courts of the District Judges the fluctuations in the figures for both years were as follow :—

	1886. Rs.	1887. Rs.	*Difference.* Rs.
Lucknow	5,07,970	13,80,450	+8,72,480
Fyzabad	6,17,603	13,68,581	+7,50,978
Rae Bareli	11,83,021	17,75,005	+5,91,984
Sitapur	5,28,480	2,85,633	−2,42,847

The average value of each ordinary civil suit rose to Rs. 207-0-1 in 1887 from Rs. 168-9-11 in 1886, and the number of suits valued over Rs. 10,000 each rose from Rs. 53 in 1886 to Rs. 84 in 1887.

Description of suits (Ordinary Civil Courts).

9. The fluctuations in the number of the more numerous kinds of suits instituted in ordinary Civil Courts during 1886 and 1887 are shown below :—

	1886. Rs.	1887. Rs.	*Difference.* Rs.
Contract in writing ...	11,633	13,854	+2,221
" not in writing ...	6,684	7,786	+1,102
On account stated ...	2,255	2,663	+8
Money had and received ...	1,647	722	−925
Goods sold	1,923	2,171	+248
Rent not falling under the Rent law ...	546	352	−194
Moveable property	2,178	2,968	+790
Damages	1,683	1,895	+212
Other suits for money, &c.	1,294	1,111	−183
Suits for declaratory decree	262	247	−15
For enforcement of matrimonial rights ...	387	389	+2
Immoveable property	5,821	6,152	+331

10. There is a noticeable decrease in the number of suits instituted during 1887 under the heads "Money had and received" and "Other suits for money." No particular reason is assigned for this. It may be due to a difference in the manner of classifying suits.

11. The increase in the number of suits for "Moveable property" is due to a more correct classification of suits in the Fyzabad Judgeship, where the District Judge has issued some necessary instructions to the lower Courts.

The District Judge of Lucknow writes:—"I have checked the classification of "cases and am satisfied fluctuations are not affected by wrong entries."

The result of my enquiries into this matter is that fluctuations have been caused mainly by the forms of relief sued for by plaintiffs.

Courts in which suits were instituted.

12. A comparative statement for three years is here given showing the classes of Courts and the number of suits filed in them :—

	1885.	1886.	1887.
Honorary Assistant Commissioners ...	3,432	3,104	2,804
Sub-Judges and Munsifs	31,791	34,312	39,762
District Judges	83	71	98

13. I desire to bring to the notice of Government the simple fact that these figures show that our ordinary paid staff of Sub-Judges and Munsifs are now (in 1887) called on to do one-fourth more work than two years previously. There has been no increase whatever in the staff in those two years. The next return shows that half that excess was actually disposed of.

IMPERIAL RETURN No. IX, PART 1. Mode of disposal (Ordinary Civil Courts).

14. The number of suits (41,594) disposed of by the ordinary Civil Courts in 1887 was 4,032 in excess of the number disposed of in 1886; at the close of 1887 there were 7,772 suits pending, being 15·7 per cent. of the number of suits that came before the Courts for disposal, as against 13·4 in 1886.

The mode of disposal of suits during the years 1886 and 1887 is shown below :—

Disposed of without trial.	1886.	1887.	*Difference.*
Plaints rejected or returned	726	907	+ 181
Dismissed for default	6,522	7,693	+ 1,171
Withdrawn with leave	1,292	1,495	+ 203
Disposed of without contest.			
Compromised	5,052	5,333	+ 281
Decreed on confession	4,158	5,020	+ 862
" *ex parte*	3,805	4,543	+ 738
Dismissed "	735	950	+ 215
Disposed of with contest.			
Judgment for plaintiff	9,679	9,840	+ 161
" defendant	5,197	5,473	+ 276
On reference to arbitration.			
For plaintiff	276	243	− 33
" defendant	120	97	− 23
Pending	5,848	7,772	+ 1,924

The percentage of suits dismissed for default to the total number disposed of was 18·, being one per cent. more than in 1886.

15. The District Judge of Lucknow repeats the remarks he made in his report for 1886 regarding suits dismissed for default and *ex parte;* and the District Judges, Sitapur and Rae Bareli, have no reason to complain of the procedure of Subordinate Courts in dismissing suits. The District Judge, Fyzabad, writes :—"There can be "no reasonable doubt that in almost every instance of dismissal by default the plaintiff

"has himself to blame, and that when the default has been unavoidable, when, indeed, "a colorable cause can be given, the Courts will rehear a case."

The heaviest pending files in Munsifs' Courts at the close of 1887 were, as usual, at Gonda and Sultanpur and at Fyzabad. By far the heaviest pending file of Sub-Judges' Courts was at Partábgarh, and the Sub-Judge of Kheri had also a heavy pending file.

Distribution of work (Ordinary Civil Courts).

16. The following statement shows the number of suits *disposed of* by each class of Courts during the years 1886 and 1887 :—

	Number of suits disposed of.		*Percentage on total number disposed of.*	
	1886.	1887.	1886.	1887.
Honorary Assistant Commissioners ...	3,133	2,825	8·3	6·7
Munsifs	27,486	31,514	73·1	75·7
Sub-Judges	6,871	7,193	18·2	17·2
District Judges	72	62	0·19	0·14

Duration of suits (Ordinary Civil Courts)..

17. During 1887 the provincial average duration of contested suits fell to 63·34 days from 74 22 days in 1886, an improvement which, I consider, is very creditable to the judiciary of Oudh and which, I trust, will meet with His Honor's approbation. The average duration of uncontested suits was 32·60 days in 1887 as against 30·23 days in 1886, a difference which calls for no remark.

18. In the Court of the Sub-Judge of Gonda, the average duration during 1887 of contested suits was 268·44 days and of uncontested suits 146·75 days. The work in this Court is exceptionally heavy, but I regret to say that I am unable to acquit the presiding officer entirely of blame in the matter.

19. A comparative statement of the average duration of suits in each class of Courts during 1886 and 1887 is here given :—

	Contested. Days.		*Uncontested.* Days.	
	1886.	1887.	1886.	1887.
Honorary Assistant Commissioners ...	62·58	58·36	38·71	25·34
Munsifs	67·06	75·28	29·20	33·18
Sub-Judges	98·64	74·07	29·16	53·11
District Judges	200·69	212·02	88·57	89·26

I think the average in District Judges' Courts was too high ; but in Oudh the suits in District Judges' Courts are often difficult and necessarily long.

Adjournments (Ordinary Civil Courts).

20. The highest number of adjournments (25) was in the Court of the Munsif of Shahabad, Hardoi district, the case being successively adjourned at the request of the parties. The number of adjournments was high in some cases in the following Courts :—Sub-Judges, Fyzabad, 19; Partábgarh, 21 ; and Rae Bareli, 17 ; and Munsif, Rae Bareli, 20. The highest average number of adjournments in the Courts of Sub-Judges was 2·37, and in the Courts of Munsifs 2·19.

IMPERIAL RETURN No. IX. PART 2. Miscellaneous cases (Ordinary Civil Courts).

21. The ordinary Civil Courts disposed of 6,196 miscellaneous cases during 1887, being 115 more than in 1886. There were 4,183 contested cases, out of which 2,583 were decided in favor of the plaintiff and 1,600 cases were decided in favor of the defendant; 1,426 cases were struck off without trial, 272 cases were compromised, 243 cases were decreed on confession, and 488 were decreed or dismissed *ex parte*. Six cases were referred to arbitration.

The average duration of contested cases, which was 51 days in 1886, fell to 36 days in 1887, a result which I consider to be satisfactory. The average duration of uncontested cases was the same in 1887 as in 1886, *viz.*, 28 days.

IMPERIAL RETURN No. X, PART I. Appeals from decrees (Ordinary Civil Courts).

22. In 1887 District Judges and Subordinate Judges had 3,500 appeals *presented to them*, being 49 less than in the previous year. A comparative statement showing the number of appeals that were before the Courts and how they were disposed of during 1886 and 1887 is here given :—

	1886.	1887.	Percentage on total number for hearing. 1886.	1887.
Total number of appeals for hearing	4,222	4,413	...	...
Rejected	155	124	3·67	2·80
Transferred	...	...	...	...
Dismissed for default...	105	119	2·48	2·69
Heard ex parte.				
Confirmed	15	24	0·63	0·67
Modified	3	1		
Reversed	5	4		
Remanded	4	1		
Contested.				
Confirmed	1,991	1,865	47·15	42·26
Modified	275	267	6·51	6·23
Reversed	549	481	13·00	10·89
Remanded	235	305	5·56	6·91
Pending ...	885	1,222	20·96	27·69

23. Out of 1,222 appeals pending at the close of 1887 there were 237 in the Courts of Subordinate Judges, the highest number (147) being in Gonda. The number of appeals pending in the Courts of District Judges were Fyzabad 300, Rae Bareli 269, Lucknow 204, and Sitapur 112.

The Sub-Judge of Gonda is responsible for an appreciable portion of the difference between this year and last. The Judicial Commissioner has called attention of District Judges and Sub-Judges to the fact.

The provincial average duration of appeals rose from 60·37 days in 1886 to 107·57 days in 1887. In the Rae Bareli District Judge's Court it was 148·93 days, and in Fyzabad it was 145·87.

The duration in the Courts of Subordinate Judges varied from 29·83 days in Lucknow to 94·06 days in Sultanpur and 99·83 days in Gonda.

Appeals to the Court of the Judicial Commissioner.

24. There were 589 first and second civil appeals before my Court during 1887 as against 566 in 1886. The following statement shows how the appeals were disposed of in each year :—

	1886.	1887.	Percentage on total for disposal. 1886.	1887.
Rejected	61	7	12·36	2·54
Dismissed for default	9	8		
Heard ex parte.				
Confirmed	1	3	0·17	0·50
Modified	...	...		
Reversed	...	...		
Remanded	...	...		
Contested.				
Confirmed	180	200	31·80	33·95
Modified	19	22	3·35	3·73
Reversed	76	69	13·42	11·71
Remanded	3	3	0·53	0·50
Pending ...	217	277	38·33	47·02

The average duration during 1887 of first civil appeals was 204 days and of second civil appeals 200 days.

IMPERIAL RETURN No. X, PART 2. Court of Judicial Commissioner.

25. Besides the appeals referred to in the preceding paragraph there were 138 miscellaneous civil appeals before the Judicial Commissioner in 1887 as against 91 in the previous year. Only 30 remained pending at the close of the year 1887. There were also 188 applications for revision under section 622, Civil Procedure Code, in 1887, being 13 more than in 1886. At the close of 1887 only 49 such applications remained pending, the rest having been disposed of as follows:—62 were rejected or dismissed, 65 decrees were confirmed, 10 were reversed, and 2 cases were remanded. The average duration was 107 days.

Courts of District and Subordinate Judges.

26. District Judges disposed of 292 miscellaneous appeals in 1887 (being 48 more than in 1886) and Sub-Judges disposed of 23 such appeals, or nearly the same number (21) as in 1886. The 315 appeals were disposed of thus:—102 were rejected or dismissed; orders were confirmed in 105 cases, modified in three cases and reversed in 63 cases. In 42 cases the orders were remanded under section 562, Civil Procedure Code, and 79 appeals remained pending at the close of the year as against 31 at the close of 1886. The average duration of miscellaneous appeals in 1887 was 45 days as against 36 in 1886.

IMPERIAL RETURN No. XI. Execution of decrees (Ordinary Civil Courts).

27. During 1887 there were 26,093 applications for execution of decree before ordinary Civil Courts for disposal, being 1,424 more than were filed during the preceding year. A comparative statement showing the mode of disposal of such applications during 1886 and 1887 is given below:—

				Percentage to total number of applications.	
	1886.	1887.	1886.	1887.
By transfer	...	...	...	...
Satisfied in full	9,269	8,921	37·57	34·18
" in part	3,239	3,185	13·12	12·20
Wholly infructuous	8,729	9,817	35·38	37·62
Pending ...	3,432	4,170	13·91	15·98

There was a falling off during 1887 of 4 per cent. in the number of decrees satisfied, completely or partially, as compared with the figures for 1886; but this is a matter greatly dependent on the ability of the decree-holder to indicate property that can be attached. The Oudh Courts have hitherto been remarkable for their comparatively effective procedure in execution.

IMPERIAL RETURN No. XII. Insolvency (Ordinary Civil Courts).

28. During 1887 applications for declaration of insolvency to the number of 50 came before the Courts, being eight more than in 1886. Out of the 50 applications 10 were granted, 20 were rejected, and 20 remained pending at the close of the year.

PROVINCIAL RETURN No. XV. Witness statement.

29. There was a considerable increase in the number of witnesses examined by Civil Courts, other than Small Cause Courts proper, during 1887, the number having risen to 54,051 from 47,152 in 1886. Nearly 97 per cent. of the witnesses were discharged on the day they attended. These figures speak to the general increase of work in the Civil Courts of the Province.

PROVINCIAL RETURN No. XVII. Process fees.

30. Exclusive of Small Cause Courts proper, the receipts in Civil Courts during 1887 on account of process fees amounted to Rs. 87,054, out of which Rs. 60,579 were expended, leaving a surplus of Rs. 26,475. The surplus fees in 1886 amounted to Rs. 20,331.

PROVINCIAL RETURN No. XVIII. Sale Commission Fund.

31. Civil Courts other than Small Cause Courts proper realized Rs. 10,487 during 1887 on account of Sale Commission Fund and expended Rs. 1,947, leaving a surplus of Rs. 8,540, of which 2Rs. ,134 were paid as commission to Názirs. The surplus in 1886 amounted to Rs. 5,049.

32. *Lucknow.*—The establishment got through a fair amount of work during the year, as it weeded 9,644 B files of the Courts of the District Judge, Sub-Judge, and two Munsifs, and selected for destruction 3,754 applications for copies.

Records.

Unao.—Very good work was done in Unao, where 9,876 B files were weeded, lists of 17,419 cases were prepared, and 7,500 applications for copies were selected for destruction.

Bara Banki.—The establishment weeded 457 A and 4,617 B files and filed with the original cases 3,649 execution of decree files.

Sitapur.—In the Sitapur Courts the establishment worked well in weeding 5,922 A files and 7,128 B files.

Hardoi.—An extraordinary amount of work was executed here, no less than 20,130 A and 5,262 B. files having been weeded.

Kheri.—Only 3,275 B files were weeded, as the work has been brought up to date.

Fyzabad.—The establishment weeded the large number of 5,140 A files and 12,524 B files.

Gonda.—Good work was done here, as 2,000 A files and 10,006 B files were weeded.

Rae Bareli.—The establishment did not work as well during 1887 as it did in 1886, having weeded only 3,486 A files and 5,567 B files in 1887 as against 3,582 A files and 10,414 B files in 1886.

Sultanpur.—More work was done in 1887, during which year 1,939 A files and 6,147 B files were weeded than in the previous year.

Partabgarh.—Only 5,296 B files were weeded during 1887 as against 8,008 in 1886.

SMALL CAUSE COURTS.

33. During 1887 there were 20,071 suits filed in the Courts of Munsifs and Sub-Judges exercising Small Cause Court powers and in Small Cause Courts proper, being 1,990 in excess of the number filed in such Courts during 1886. The difference between the figures for 1886 and 1887 is due to 1,342 suits being filed in Small Cause Courts proper and 648 suits in the Courts of Munsifs and Sub-Judges during 1887 in excess of the number so filed in 1886.

IMPERIAL RETURN No. VII. Suits instituted (Small Cause Courts).

34. The most noticeable fluctuations in the number of institutions during 1887 as compared with the figures for 1886 are as follow:—

Contract in writing	+ 629
Goods sold	+ 465
Moveable property	+ 464
On account stated	+ 455
Money had and received	— 200
Other suits for money or moveables	— 113

35. The value of the subject-matter of suits instituted in Small Cause Courts during 1887 amounted to Rs. 5,99,742, being Rs. 1,09,472 more than in the previous year when the value was Rs. 4,90,270.

IMPERIAL RETURN No. VIII. Value of suits instituted (Small Cause Courts).

The value of suits instituted during 1887 in the Lucknow City Small Cause Court is Rs. 54,270 in excess of the figures for 1886, and a similar increase of value to the amount of Rs. 44,564 is shown in the Courts of Munsifs and Sub-Judges on the Small Cause Court side.

The average value per suit instituted in all classes of Small Cause Courts during 1887 is Rs. 29-14-1 as against Rs. 27-1-0 in 1886, and the percentage of suits valued at more than Rs. 50 was 12·7 in 1887 as against 10·4 in 1886.

36. In 1887 there were 21,238 suits *for disposal* before all classes of Small Cause Courts, being 2,041 in excess of the number (19,197) that came before the Courts in 1886, at the close of which year 806, being 4·1 per cent. of the total number before the Courts, remained pending. At the close of 1887 there were 1,709, or 8·1 per cent., suits left pending.

IMPERIAL RETURN No. IX. PART 1. Mode of disposal (Small Cause Courts).

A statement showing percentages of the modes of disposal, calculated on the total number of suits for disposal, in the years 1886 and 1887, is here given :—

	Percentage to total number of suits for disposal.		Difference.
	1886.	1887.	
Without trial	17·2	16·6	−0·6
Without contest.			
Compromised	13·2	13·5	+0·3
Decreed on confession	16·5	17·4	+0·9
„ *ex parte*	14·7	15·5	+0·8
Dismissed „	1·6	1·5	−0·1
With contest.			
By arbitration	0 6	0·3	−0·3
In favor of plaintiff	21·5	18·7	−2·8
„ defendant	10·2	8·1	−2·1
Pending ...	4·1	8·0	+3·9

The average duration of contested cases in 1887 was 32 37 days and of uncontested cases 26·92 days as against 30·54 days and 28·14 days respectively in 1886.

37. Miscellaneous cases before the Small Cause Courts for disposal in 1887 numbered 830, being 121 cases less than in the previous year. Out of these 830 cases 373, or 45· per cent., were contested, 245 being decided in favor of the plaintiff and 125 in favor of the defendant; 322 cases, or 38· per cent., were disposed of without trial, and 52 cases, or 6· per cent., without contest, leaving 83, or 10· per cent., cases pending at the close of the year.

IMPERIAL RETURN No. IX, PART 2. Miscellaneous cases (Small Cause Courts).

38. During 1887 Small Cause Courts had before them for disposal 9,885 applications for execution of decrees, being 1,093 more than during 1886. The following statement shows how such applications were disposed of and the realizations in money during 1886 and 1887 :—

IMPERIAL RETURN No. XI. Execution of decrees (Small Cause Courts).

	Applications.		Percentage to total number of applications.	
	1886.	1887.	1886.	1887.
By transfer	...	...	...	...
Satisfied in full	3,000	2,923	34·12	29·57
„ in part	1,889	2,021	21·48	20·44
Wholly infructuous...	3,414	4,174	38·83	42·22
Pending ...	489	767	5·56	7·65

	1886. Rs.	1887. Rs.	Difference. Rs.
Amount realized with issue of process	92,924	1,00,381	+7,457
„ without „	13,672	16,630	+2,958

There was a falling off of 6 per cent. in the number of decrees fully or partially executed during 1887 as compared with the figures for 1886, but on the other hand the amount realized increased by 9·77 per cent.

39. The number of witnesses examined in the Courts of the Lucknow City, Lucknow Cantonment, and Fyzabad Cantonment Small Cause Court Judges during 1887 aggregated 3,531, of whom only 122 witnesses were detained two days, the rest being discharged on the day they attended.

PROVINCIAL RETURN No. XV. Witness statement (Small Cause Courts proper).

RENT COURTS.

Imperial Return No. VII. Suits instituted (Rent Courts).

40. Act XXII of 1886, the new Oudh Rent Act, came into force on the 1st January, 1887, and the number of suits filed under this Act during 1887 was 26,797, or 5,059 less than the number instituted during 1886 under the old Act.

The following statement shows the number of suits instituted in the Rent Courts during 1886 and 1887 :—

	Institutions.		[Percentage of increase or decrease in 1887.
	1886.	1887.	
Sultanpur	4,968	3,283	−33·92
Rae Bareli	1,804	1,328	−26·38
Gonda	4,563	3,428	−24·8
Bara Banki	2,282	1,747	−23·44
Partábgarh	3,003	2,362	−21·34
Fyzabad	4,308	3,567	−17·2
Unao	3,795	3,176	−16·32
Hardoi	2,972	2,555	−14·03
Sitapur	958	834	−12·94
Lucknow	1,741	1,692	− 2·81
Kheri	764	841	+ 10·07
Bahraich	1,888	1,984	+ 5·08

Fluctuation in classes of rent suits.

41. The number of institutions under each class of suit during the years 1886 and 1887 is as follows :—

	1886.	1887.	Difference.
Arrears of rent	16,084	19,547	+ 3,463
Enhancement or abatement of rent	105	75	− 30
Relating to distraint	386	318	− 68
Damages for extortion, &c.	258	379	+ 121
For pattahs or kabuliats	12	44	+ 32
„ ejectment or recovery of possession ...	1,109	3,692	+ 2,583
„ recovery of money or accounts from agents ...	35	72	+ 37
All other suits not included in the above ...	15,046	2,670	− 12,376

42. The increase in the number of suits filed under the heading "Arrears of rent" has been general throughout the Province. The Commissioner of the Lucknow Division (the Hon'ble Mr. McConaghey) writes :—"I do not anticipate any permanent increase in suits for arrears. Tenants, as Mr. Boys remarks, will soon learn "to pay up punctually, to preserve the fixity of holdings they have acquired under the "new law." "There will be for some time to come a run on the arrears section of the "new Act * * * *"

The Deputy Commissioner of Kheri writes :—"Suits for arrears of rent increased "by 213; bad harvests are probably the cause."

The Deputy Commissioner, Hardoi, writes :—"As was to be expected, landlords, "now being unable practically to proceed by ejectment, bring suits for arrears of "rent;" upon which the Commissioner of the Division, Colonel Erskine, notes :— "This seems a reasonable explanation of the increase of suits for arrears of rent in a "year which was not very fortunate in its harvests. The same thing has occurred "in the other two districts of the Division."

43. The increase in the number of suits filed under the heading "For ejectment or recovery of possession" is generally attributed by District Officers to the cancelment of section 102 of the old Rent Act.

The Deputy Commissioner of Partábgarh (Mr. Chapman) writes:—"A most "remakable increase is observable in suits for ejectment or recovery of possession. "The minimum of relief obtained—just relief I mean—and the maximum of wrong "done under section 102 of the old Rent Act are things of the past, I am happy to "say, and the aggrieved party can obtain a fair hearing under clause 10, section 108

" of the new Act. It is to this I attribute the abnormal increase under this class of " suits."

The Deputy Commissioner of Sitapur (Mr. Butts), writes :—" The ejectment " suits lay mostly between tenants resisting encroachments by one against the " other. Some few were by landlords against tenants for taking up land in excess of " their holdings."

44. The very large decrease in suits filed under the heading " All other suits, &c.," consisted chiefly of suits to contest notices of ejectment. In Sitapur alone the notices fell from 3,636 in 1886 to 15 in 1887. Of course the provisions of the new Rent Act are not universally understood as yet. But I think the experience of this first year's working shows that it has tended to reduce litigation and to lessen friction between the different classes of the agricultural community. Few new legal points of any difficulty have come before me as yet for decision, and this is, I think, good evidence of the care with which the Act was originally drawn by its framers.

IMPERIAL RETURN No. VIII. Value of suits (Rent Courts).

45. As a consequence of the diminution in the number of suits filed during 1887 as compared with the number filed in 1886, the value of the subject-matter of suits fell from Rs. 11,12,650 in 1886 to Rs. 9,08,514, being a decrease of Rs. 2,04,136. The number of suits filed during 1887 show a decrease as compared with the figures for 1886 as follows :—Value not exceeding Rs. 10, 27 per cent ; not exceeding Rs. 50, 12 per cent.; not exceeding Rs. 100, 27 per cent.; not exceeding Rs. 500, 8 per cent., and not exceeding Rs. 1,000, 18 per cent. There were, however, 69 suits, as against 43 in 1886, of value not exceeding Rs. 5,000, and one exceeding Rs. 10,000 as against none in 1886.

IMPERIAL RETURN No. IX, PART 1. Disposal of suits (Rent Courts).

46. The Rent Courts had before them for disposal 29,041 suits in 1887 as against 35,027 in 1886. The mode of disposal is shown below for both the years :—

	1886.	1887.	Percentage to total number of suits. 1886.	1887.
Without trial.				
Rejected	256	302	0·73	1·03
Dismissed for default	3,319	2,607	9·47	8·97
Withdrawn	1,251	1,097	3·57	3·77
Without contest.				
Compromised	1,729	1,360	4·93	4·68
Decreed on confession	2,644	3,397	7·57	11·69
" *ex parte*	5,526	5,912	15·77	20·35
Dismissed "	1,024	530	2·92	1·82
By arbitration.				
For plaintiff	31	25	0·12	0·09
" defendant	11	2		
With contest.				
For plaintiff	11,730	8,723	33·48	30.03
" defendant	6,104	2,874	17·42	9·89
Pending ...	1,397	2,212	3·98	7·61

The average duration of contested suits was 32 48 days and of uncontested suits 24·83 days during 1887 as against 31,11 days and 26·13 days respectively in 1886.

47. In paragraph 37 of my last year's report I stated that an enquiry was being made as to the reasons of the comparatively large number of rent suits dismissed for default and *ex parte* in the Lucknow Division.

The Deputy Commissioner, Lucknow (Mr. Evans), reported as follows :—" The result " of enquiries thus made does not show that the Courts were in any way responsible for

"the dismissals and *ex parte* proceedings. On the contrary it appears that the parties "themselves were to blame, and in numerous instances they did not attend either "because the case had been compromised or because the claim could not be resisted. "I may further state that on a previous reference from Government I had a number "of rent suits examined by the munsarim, and no unnecessary delay or undue care-"lessness could be discovered in the procedure of the Courts."

48. The Deputy Commissioners, Bara Banki, Sitapur, Kheri, Sultanpur, and Partabgarh express similar opinions in their notes on the year under report that the Rent Courts are not responsible for the large number of suits dismissed or disposed of *ex parte*. The Deputy Commissioner of Unao (Mr. Gibson), referring to the small proportion of reinstitutions, *viz*, 6 out of 62, dismissed in one Court and 5 out of 50 dismissed in another Court, writes :—"Judging from the number of reinstitutions, it might be inferred that the plaintiff had good reason for not proceeding with his suit. But I fear that is not altogether the case * * * *. Suitors cannot afford to take up their abode in Court, and numerous dismissals for default indicate an overtaxed patience. Connected with this injustice to suitors is the duration of suits."

49. The Deputy Commissioners of Fyzabad and Sitapur were requested to verify their opinions as expressed in their reports for 1886 on this subject by an inspection of the files of cases. This the officers then in charge of those districts have done, and the results completely bear out the opinions previously expressed.

50. The Deputy Commissioner, Fyzabad, writes :—"The large number of cases "decreed *ex parte* will form the subject of enquiry and further report." In a large proportion of the suits dismissed the Mehdauna estate was plaintiff, and "the defend-"ants, acknowledging the validity of the claim, did not think it worth while to attend "the Court to defend a just claim."

51. The Commissioner of the Fyzabad Division (Mr. Harington) in his remarks on the Bahraich (Colonel Harrison) Rent Court report, says :—"It would have been more "satisfactory if the Deputy Commissioner had examined the procedure, as was done "last year, and satisfied himself that the dismissals for default were due and regular." The Judicial Commissioner agrees with Mr. Harington in these remarks.

IMPERIAL RETURN No. IX, PART 2. Miscellaneous cases (Rent Courts).

52. There were only 5,702 miscellaneous cases before the Rent Courts during 1887 as against 19,317 cases in 1886. The decrease in number is chiefly due to repeal of section 102 of the old Rent Act and to the alteration of the provisions as to notice of ejectment. The 5,702 cases were disposed of as follows ;—769, or 13·48 per cent., without trial ; 227, or 3·99 per cent., were compromised ; 2,090, or 36·65 per cent., were decided without contest ; 2,414, or 42·33 per cent., were decided with contest, 1,590 in favor of plaintiff and 824 in favor of defendant, leaving 202, or 3·54 per cent., pending at the close of the year. The average duration was 36·13 days for contested and 27·83 days for uncontested cases. The large number of applications decreed *ex parte* consists generally of applications under sections 15, 31, and 60 of the Oudh Rent Act, in which the opposite party seldom appears.

IMPERIAL RETURN No. X, PART 1. Appeals from decrees (Rent Courts).

53. The number of appeals before the Rent Courts during 1887 was 3,080, being 533 less than in 1886. The 3,080 appeals were thus disposed of : 185 were rejected or dismissed and 66 were heard *ex parte*. The contested appeals resulted in 1,511 decrees being confirmed, 211 modified and 493 reversed, and 284 cases being remanded. There were 330 appeals pending at the close of the year. The average duration in the Courts of Deputy Commissioners was 49·84 days as against 35·89 days in 1886, and in the Courts of Commissioners 150·56 days as against 93·98 days in 1886. The increased duration is probably due to want of familiarity of the Courts with the new Act.

During 1887 the number of appeals disposed of by Commissioners amounted to 1,462, leaving 272 pending at the close of the year, as shown below:—

	Disposed of.	*Pending.*	*Average duration.*
			days.
Fyzabad	279	175	210·31
Lucknow	422	46	128·0
Rae Bareli	219	31	37·32
Sitapur	92	20	46·79

54. The Commissioner, Fyzabad Division (Mr. Harington), writes :—" By the " new Rent Act, Deputy Commissioners have been relieved of much of their appellate " work since they hear appeals only from the orders of the tahsildárs. The number " of rent appeals decided during the year by my Court and by the Deputy Commis- " sioners has been 773 and 500 respectively. The whole burden is thrown on the " Commissioners of Divisions, however small may be the value of the claim. Of 913 " appeals on the file of my Court, 266 were under clauses 2, 9, 11, 15 and 16. These " cases were formerly cognizable by Deputy Commissioners. Out of these 226 appeals " there were 83 of value not exceeding Rs. 10, ranging from two annas six pies up to " Rs. 10. Only 24 appeals were of the value of Rs. 100 or upwards."

55. In the Lucknow Division, however, the number of appeals filed in 1887 was 526 as against 607 in 1886. The Commissioner (the Hon'ble Mr. McConaghey) writes :—" The decrease in the appeals is due (1) to the introduction of the new " Rent Act, under which the powers of landlords to eject tenants have been consider- " ably curtailed, and (2) to the influx of ejectment cases in the preceding year, it being " the last year in which the landlords could hope to exercise the extensive powers " they had under the old Act."

56. The circumstances of the two Divisions are quite different. In the Fyzabad Division the number of suits for recovery of rent has always been very numerous, and, as under the new Act, all appeals from the orders of Assistant Collectors, 1st class, and Collectors in all suits, however small in value, lie to the Commissioner, the institution of appeals in the Court of the Commissioner has increased. On the other hand litigation under the Rent Act in the Lucknow Division consists chiefly of suits for ejectment, and as these suits have fallen off considerably since the introduction of the new Rent Act, appeals have in like manner decreased.

57. Deputy Commissioners disposed of 1,288 appeals, leaving 58 pending at the close of 1887, and the average duration was 49·84 days. A large number of appeals was disposed of by the following Deputy Commissioners, *viz.*, Gonda 308, Unao 169, Fyzabad 168, and Sultanpur 167. In 1886 Deputy Commissioners disposed of 1,440 appeals and had 437 pending at the close of the year. The average duration was 35·89 days.

58. The number of rent appeals disposed of by the Judicial Commissioner rose from 313 in 1886 to 446 in 1887, and were thus disposed of:—93 were rejected or dismissed; the decrees were confirmed in 212 cases, modified in 5 cases, and reversed in 121 cases; ten cases were remanded; there were 196 appeals pending at the close of the year and the average duration was 142 days.

IMPERIAL RETURN No. X, PART 2. Miscellaneous appeals (Rent Courts).

59. During 1887 Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners had before them for disposal 273 miscellaneous rent appeals as against 300 in 1886. Of these 273 appeals 25 were rejected or dismissed; the orders in 121 cases were confirmed, in 17 cases modified, and in 54 cases reversed; 35 cases were remanded and 7 appeals remained pending; the average duration was 65·84 days as against 56·93 days in 1886.

60. The Judicial Commissioner had before him for disposal 83 miscellaneous rent appeals, out of which 27 were rejected or dismissed; the orders in 23 cases were confirmed, in three cases modified and in 13 cases reversed; one case was remanded and 16 appeals remained pending at the close of 1887; the average duration was 102 days.

IMPERIAL RETURN No. XI. Execution of decrees (Rent Courts).

61. The applications for execution of decrees that were before the Rent Courts in 1887 for disposal numbered 14,820, being 2,372 more than during 1886. The following statement shows how such applications were disposed of in each year:—

	1886.	1887.	Percentage to total number of applications. 1886.	1887.
By transfer	...	...	...	...
Satisfaction in full	6,021	7,750	48·36	52·29
„ in part	1,694	1,648	13·60	11·12
Wholly infructuous	3,535	4,212	28·39	28·28
Pending ...	1,198	1,210	9·62	8·16
In which debtor imprisoned	95	130	0·76	0·87
„ „ arrested	155	151	1·24	1·01
„ moveable property sold ...	1,353	1,390	10·84	9·37
„ „ attached ...	3,068	3,275	24·58	22·09
„ immoveable property sold ...	191	206	1·53	1·39
„ „ dealt with under section 305, &c., Civil Procedure Code,	12	13	0·09	0·08
In which immoveable property attached ...	238	190	1·90	1·28
„ possession given of moveables ...	46	3	0·36	0·01
„ „ „ immoveables ...	281	1,044	2·25	7·04
„ contract was enforced ...	36	61	0·28	0·49
„ execution otherwise effected ...	2,533	3,024	20·29	20·40
	Rs.	Rs.		
Amount realized { With issue of process ...	2,45,455	2,50,892	...	...
Amount realized { Without „ ...	16,262	21,522	...	...

The above results are in my opinion very satisfactory.

PROVINCIAL RETURN No. XV. Witnesses examined (Rent Courts).

62. The Rent Courts examined 14,258 witnesses in 1887, being fewer by 1,504 than were examined in 1886. During the year under report 13,943 witnesses or 97·71 per cent. were detained one day, 261 were detained two days and 54 were detained three days. These results are good as usual.

PROVINCIAL RETURN No. XVI. Process fee fund (Rent Courts).

63. There was a considerable falling off during the year under report as compared with the figures for the previous year in the number of processes issued and consequently in the receipts of the process fee fund. The number of processes issued fell from 255,737 in 1886 to 134,912 in 1887, in which year the receipts were Rs. 43,509 as against Rs. 71,512 in 1886. The expenditure was reduced as far as possible; that is, from Rs. 49,811 in 1886 to Rs. 42,490, which left a surplus of Rs. 1,018 instead of Rs. 21,701 as in 1886.

PROVINCIAL RETURN No. XVIII. Sale Commission Fund (Rent Courts).

64. The receipts of the Sale Commission Fund were Rs. 3,218, the expenditure Rs. 615, and the surplus Rs. 2,603 during 1887. In 1886 the receipts were Rs. 3,361, expenditure Rs. 616, and surplus Rs. 2,745.

COURT OF THE JUDICIAL COMMISSIONER.

Revision and reference.

65. In addition to the business of this Court detailed in the foregoing paragraphs, 92 miscellaneous applications and 8 references for were disposed of.

Miscellaneous work.

66. Applications for leave to appeal to Her Majesty's Privy Council to the number of 17, and 38 applications from pleaders for enrolment or promotion, were also disposed of during 1887.

67. In a report which may be the last that I shall have to submit to Government on the working of the Courts of Civil Justice in Oudh, I desire to place on record my sense of the value of the services of the members of my Office establishment, all of whom have worked with untiring energy and devotion.

The Judicial Commissioner's Court has no long vacation such as the chartered High Courts have, yet, overworked as every individual in my staff is, all have cheerfully sacrificed their holidays on the many occasions during the year when public business has required their so doing.

I attribute this cheerful alacrity on their part largely to the influence and tact of Mr. C. Hoskins, the Registrar, who, never sparing himself, sets an example of public zeal which his subordinates are bound to imitate. Mr. Hoskins' long experience and strictly business habits make him a most valuable officer, and he has discharged the duties of Registrar of this Court to my entire satisfaction.

The Deputy Registrar, Grish Chandar Bose, is also a man admirably fitted for his post. He is a sound lawyer and a most industrious, upright, and capable official.

Mr. Anthony, the General Assistant, is a most industrious clerk, possessed of much experience, and is altogether a thoroughly useful man.

Munshi Ram Rattan, the record-keeper, Mirza Nisar Husain, Saiyid Muhammad Taki, Munsarims, have also deserved mention here for their long and excellent services in this Court.

My Court-reader, Munshi Hadi Ali, is also a capable man, and has satisfied me by his willing discharge of duty.

I have the honor to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

W. YOUNG,

Judicial Commissioner, Oudh.

APPENDICES.

IMPERIAL RETURN No. VII.—(Civil and Rent).

Showing the number and description of Civil and Rent suits instituted in the Courts of the Province of Oudh during the year 1887.

Class of tribunal.	*Suits for money or moveable property.*										*Suits under the rent law.*								*Title and other suits*																		
	Contract in writing.	Contract not in writing.	On account stated	Money lent and received.	Goods sold.	Wages, work and material.	Rent not falling under the rent law.	Moveable property or value thereof	Damages.	Other suits for money or moveables not already mentioned.	Arrears of rent with or without ejectment or cancelment of lease.	Enhancement or abatement of rent.	Relating to distraint.	Damages for extortion or withholding receipts on account of illegal restraint or other causes.	For pattahs or kabuliats.	For ejectment or recovery of possession.	For recovery of money or accounts from agents.	All other suits under the rent law not included in above.	Suits for immoveable property.	Suits for declaratory decree.	Other suits under the Specific Relief Act.	Suits to declare and establish rights to real property, including pre-emption, foreclosure, &c.	Suits to declare and establish personal rights.	Suits for an account.	Suits relating to religious endowments.	Suits to set aside judgments, contracts or obligation on the ground of fraud.	Suits for dissolution of marriage.	Suits for enforcement of matrimonial rights.	Suits for partition.	Suits relating to shipping.	Suits relating to religion or caste.	Administration suits.	Interpleader suits.	Dissolution of partnership.	Suits under Section 261, Act X. of 1865 (also Hindu Wills Act).	Other suits not falling under any of the previous heads.	Grand Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38
Civil Courts.																																					
Unpaid tribunals	541	849	333	74	171	45	42	496	92	41	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32	1	...	3	...	..	..	...	1	17	1	..	...	...	...	...	...	65	2,804
Paid sub-divisional tribunals ...	13,293	6,936	2,328	648	2,000	683	310	2,472	1,803	1,066	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,077	242	238	958	84	20	1	61	11	371	58	..	4	...	...	7	...	391	39,762
Small Cause Courts	6,083	3,855	2,952	415	2,784	682	676	1,093	761	770	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20,071
District Courts	20	1	2	..	...	...	..	...	...	4	.	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	43	4	2	9	3	1	...	2	.	1	1	...	...	..	...	...	...	5	98
Total ..	19,937	11,641	5,615	1,137	4,955	1,110	1,028	4,061	2,656	1,881	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,152	247	240	970	87	21	1	63	12	389	60	..	4	...	...	7	...	461	62,735
Revenue (Rent) Courts.																																					
Unpaid local tribunals ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	219	...	...	...	...	...	..	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	230
Other subordinate courts ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19,325	74	318	379	44	3,692	72	2,658	...	...	..	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26,562
District Courts	..	...	...	..	...	...	..	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	..	...	...	1	...	...	..	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Total ...	..	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19,547	75	318	379	44	3,692	72	2,670	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26,797
Courts at the seat of Government:	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Presidency Small Cause Courts ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	.	...	...	...	...	...
Superior Courts	..	.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	..	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	3
Total ...	...		...	.	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		3
Grand Total ...	19,937	11,641	5,615	1,137	4,955	1,110	1,028	4,061	2,656	1,881	19,547	75	318	379	44	3,692	72	2,670	6,152	247	240	970	87	21	1	63	15	389	60	...	4	...	...	7	...	461	89,535

IMPERIAL RETURN No. VIII.—(Civil and Rent).

Showing the number and value of suits instituted in the Civil and Rent Courts in the Province of Oudh during the year 1887.

Class of court.	Number of suits instituted in the different Courts.									Total value of suits.	Remarks.
	Not exceeding Rs. 10.	Not exceeding Rs. 50.	Not exceeding Rs. 100.	Not exceeding Rs. 500.	Not exceeding Rs. 1,000.	Not exceeding Rs. 5,000.	Not exceeding Rs. 10,000.	Exceeding Rs. 10,000.	Number of suits the value of which cannot be estimated in money.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Civil Courts.										Rs. a. p.	
Unpaid tribunals	1,106	1,353	307	20	...	...	...	...	18	64,676 5 0	
Paid sub-divisional tribunals	10,135	17,051	6,211	4,331	813	589	56	...	576	39,59,954 11 2	
Small Cause Courts	7,992	9,521	1,404	1,154	...	...	..	...	...	5,99,741 10 6	
District Courts	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	84	10	48,09,678 8 0	
Total ...	19,233	27,925	7,922	5,505	813	592	57	84	604	94,34,051 2 8	
Revenue (Rent) Courts.											
Unpaid local tribunals	107	118	1	4	...	...	...	...	...	3,896 15 7	
Other subordinate Courts	11,935	11,308	1,919	1,186	127	68	...	...	19	8,92,501 1 1	
District Courts	...	1	...	2	...	1	...	1	...	12,115 13 0	
Total ...	12,042	11,427	1,920	1,192	127	69	...	1	19	9,08,513 13 8	
Grand Total ...	31,275	39,352	9,842	6,697	940	661	57	85	623	1,03,42,565 0 4	

IMPERIAL RETURN No. IX.—(CIVIL AND RENT).

Showing the general result of the trial of Civil and Revenue (Rent) cases in the Courts of Original Jurisdiction in the Province of Oudh in the year 1887.

PART I.—CIVIL AND RENT SUITS.

Class of court.	Total number of suits before the courts.	Number of cases disposed of— Transferred to courts in other provinces.	Without trial.	Without contest. Compromised.	Decreed on confession.	Decreed *ex parte*.	Dismissed *ex parte*.	On reference to arbitration. For plaintiff.	For defendant.	With contest. Judgment for plaintiff in whole or in part.	Judgment for defendant.	Pending at close of the year.	Number of cases pending more than three months at the close of the year.	Average duration of cases. Contested.	Uncontested.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
I.—Civil Courts.																
Unpaid tribunals	3,065	...	841	256	675	311	73	26	14	431	198	240	37	58·36	25·34	
Paid sub-divisional tribunals	36,961	...	7,874	4,070	3,511	3,607	752	162	64	7,211	4,263	5,447	1,346	75·28	33·18	
Small Cause Courts	21,238	...	3,535	2,882	3,704	3,300	331	51	15	3,981	1,730	1,709	72	32·37	26·92	
District Courts other than Chief Courts of districts	9,200	...	1,372	1,000	825	623	125	53	19	2,177	999	2,007	839	74·07	53·11	
Chief Courts of districts	140	...	8	7	9	2	...	2	...	21	13	78	54	212·02	89·26	
Total ...	70,604	...	13,630	8,215	8,724	7,843	1,281	294	112	13,821	7,203	9,481	2,348	63·34	32·60	
II.—Revenue (Rent) Courts.																
Unpaid local tribunals	237	...	34	5	28	42	12	...	...	59	9	48	1	33·67	35·52	
Paid sub-divisional tribunals	12,028	...	1,498	699	2,142	2,992	163	7	...	3,406	807	314	4	24·03	18·35	
Other subordinate Courts	16,769	...	2,474	656	1,225	2,878	355	18	2	5,255	2,057	1,849	32	37·24	30·95	
District Courts	7	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	3	1	1	...	200·25	70·	
Total ...	29,041	...	4,006	1,360	3,397	5,912	530	25	2	8,723	2,874	2,212	47	32·48	24·83	
Superior Courts	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	1	27·	...	
GRAND TOTAL ...	99,648	...	17,636	9,575	12,121	13,755	1,811	319	114	22,546	10,077	11,694	2,395	52·48	30·45	

IMPERIAL RETURN No. IX.—(CIVIL AND RENT).

Showing the general result of the trial of Civil and Revenue (Rent) cases in the Courts of Original Jurisdiction in the Province of Oudh in the year 1887.

PART II.—MISCELLANEOUS CASES.

Class of court.	Total number of suits before the Court.	Number of cases disposed of— Transferred to other Courts	Without trial.	Without contest. Compromised.	Decreed on confession.	Decreed *ex parte*.	Dismissed *ex parte*.	On reference to arbitration. For plaintiff.	For defendant.	With contest. Judgment for plaintiff in whole or in part.	Judgment for defendant.	Pending at the close of the year.	Pending more than three months.	Average duration of cases. Contested.	Uncontested.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
I.—Civil Courts.																
Unpaid tribunals	248	...	62	9	15	14	6	5	..	65	47	25	8	50·01	45·68	
Paid sub-divisional tribunals	4,249	...	944	141	197	136	89	1	...	1,387	978	386	24	32·91	27·04	
Small Cause Courts	830	...	322	18	14	16	4	...	...	245	128	83	2	29·70	23·38	
District Courts other than Chief Courts ...	1,961	...	297	119	29	110	59	...	...	666	444	237	25	34·94	23·93	
Chief Courts of districts	635	...	133	3	2	34	...	1	...	165	131	166	73	68·87	47·37	
Total ...	7,923	...	1,748	290	257	310	158	7	...	2,528	1,728	897	132	36·13	27·83	
II.—Revenue (Rent) Courts.																
Unpaid local tribunals	9	...	5	.	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	9·	70·60	
Paid sub-divisional tribunals	2,306	...	210	180	43	1,154	40	...	...	487	101	91	1	20·39	18·27	
Other subordinate Courts	3,200	...	536	33	42	713	43	...	...	1,053	680	100	3	28·36	19·92	
District Courts	187	...	18	14	21	31	3	...	...	50	41	9	...	34·89	23·89	
Total ...	5,702	...	769	227	106	1,898	86	...	...	1,590	824	202	4	26·36	19·23	
GRAND TOTAL ...	13,625	...	2,517	517	363	2,208	244	7	...	4,118	2,552	1,099	136	32·60	23·30	

IMPERIAL RETURN No. X.—(Civil and Rent).

Showing the business of the Civil and Revenue (Rent) Appellate Courts of the Province of Oudh in the year 1887.

PART I.—Appeals from Decrees.

Class of court.	Total number of appeals before the courts.	Transferred to courts in other provinces.	Appeals summarily rejected.	Dismissed for default or otherwise not prosecuted.	*Heard* ex parte.				*Contested.*				Pending.	Of those pending more than three months.	Average duration of appeals.	Objections under section 561, Act XIV., 1882.	Remarks.
					Confirmed.	Modified.	Reversed.	Remanded.	Confirmed.	Modified.	Reversed.	Remanded.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Courts in the interior. Appeals from original decrees.																	
A.—Civil Courts.																	
Chief Appellate Courts other than Chief Courts of districts	1,310	...	2	42	13	...	2	1	581	90	151	91	337	111	60·35	18	
Chief Appellate Courts of districts	3,103	...	122	77	11	1	2	...	1,284	177	330	214	885	367	128·28	89	
Superior Appellate Courts other than Chief Courts of provinces	...	...	.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	
Total :. ...	4,413	..	124	119	24	1	4	1	1,865	267	481	305	1,222	478	107·57	107	
B.—Revenue (Rent) Courts.																	
Collectors' Appellate Courts	1,346	...	13	80	12	2	3	2	683	123	207	163	58	2	49·84	4	
Commissioners' Appellate Courts	1,734	...	4	88	32	5	9	1	828	88	286	121	272	6	150·56	19	
Total	3,080		17	168	44	7	12	3	1,511	211	493	284	330	8	103·38	23	
Courts at the Presidency or seat of Government.																	
Chief Court of Province. — Appeals from original decrees — Civil ...	70	...	1	..	...	...	...	...	23	4	8	1	33	22	204·	4	
Chief Court of Province. — Appeals from original decrees — Rent ...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.	...	
Chief Court of Province. — Appeals from appellate decrees — Civil ...	519	...	6	8	3	..	...	...	177	18	61	2	244	149	200·	22	
Chief Court of Province. — Appeals from appellate decrees — Rent ...	642	...	94	4	2	...	1	5	210	5	120	5	196	155	142·	16	
Total	1,231	...	101	12	5	...	1	5	410	27	189	8	473	326	166·	42	
Grand Total	8,724	...	242	299	73	8	17	9	3,786	505	1.163	597	2,025	812	115·96	172	

IMPERIAL RETURN No. X.—(Civil and Rent).

Showing the business of the Civil and Revenue (Rent) Appellate Courts of the Province of Oudh in the year 1887.

PART II.—Miscellaneous.

Class of court.	Total number of appeals before the courts.	Transferred to courts in other provinces.	Appeals summarily rejected.	Dismissed for default or otherwise not prosecuted.	*Heard ex-parte.*				*Contested.*				Pending.	Of those pending more than 3 months.	Average duration of appeals.	Objections under section 564, Act XIV of 1882.	Remarks.
					Confirmed.	Modified.	Reversed.	Remanded.	Confirmed.	Modified.	Reversed.	Remanded.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Courts in the interior. Appeals from original decrees.																	
A.—Civil Courts.																	
Chief Appellate Courts other than Chief Courts of districts	24		...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	7	6	1	...	32·43	...	
Chief Appellate Courts of Districts and Superior Appellate Courts other than Chief Court of Province...	370	...	89	13	...	...	5	...	95	3	51	36	78	15	46·50	...	
Total	394	...	89	13	...	..	5	...	105	3	58	42	79	15	45·85	.	
B.—Revenue (Rent) Courts.																	
Collectors' Appellate Courts	150	...	10	5	4	...	2	5	52	3	36	31	2	...	45·21	1	
Commissioners' Appellate Courts	123	...	2	8	2	...	..	1	69	14	18	4	5	...	91 72	1	
Total	273	..	12	13	6	...	2	6	121	17	54	35	7	...	65·84	2	
Courts at the Presidency or seat of Government.																	
Chief Court of Province. — Appeals from original decrees. — Civil ...	94	...	6	3	1	...	1	1	20	3	36	...	23	19	140·	1	
Chief Court of Province. — Appeals from original decrees. — Rent ...	22	...	5	...	...	..	...	...	1	...	13	1	2	4	106.	...	
Chief Court of Province. — Appeals from appellate decrees. — Civil ...	44	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	17	1	15	...	7	4	179.	...	
Chief Court of Province. — Appeals from appellate decrees. — Rent ...	61	...	21	1	1	1	..	...	21	2	..	...	14	5	102.	...	
Applications for revisions under Section 622, Act XIV., 1882	188	...	61	1	4	..	2	...	61	...	8	2	49	28	107.	...	
Total	409	...	96	6	6	1	3	1	120	6	72	3	95	60	122·	1	
Grand Total	1,076	...	197	32	12	1	10	7	346	26	184	80	181	75	78·64	3	

IMPERIAL RETURN No. XI.—(CIVIL AND RENT).

Showing the result of proceedings on application for the execution of the Decrees of the Civil and Revenue (Rent) Courts in the Province of Oudh during the year 1887.

Class of court.	Total number of applications for the execution of decrees before the courts.	Applications disposed of— By transfer.	Satisfaction obtained in full.	Satisfaction obtained in part.	Wholly infructuous.	Pending at the end of the year.	Number of applications pending more than three months at the close of the year.	Amount realized— With the issue of process.	Without the issue of process.	Number of applications— On which the judgment-debtor was imprisoned.	On which he was arrested but released without imprisonment.	On which moveable property— Was sold.	Was attached but subsequently released.	On which immoveable property— Was sold.	Was dealt with under section 305, 322, or 326, Act XIV. of 1882.	Was attached but subsequently released under section 275.	On which possession was given— Of moveables.	Of immoveables.	On which specific performance was enforced.	On which partition was effected.	On which execution was effected otherwise than in the preceding columns.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
								Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.													
COURTS IN THE INTERIOR.																						
I.—Civil Courts.																						
Unpaid tribunals ...	865	...	330	143	288	104	24	7,473 14 6	196 11 0	1	10	63	223	17	...	5	2	18	9	...	129	
Paid sub-divisional tribunals,	18,149	...	6,432	2,129	6,882	2,706	679	2,37,708 11 1	10,419 10 1	91	141	1,350	3,003	315	12	373	5	1,565	56	18	3,222	
Small Cause Courts ...	9,885	...	2,923	2,021	4,174	767	45	1,00,381 1 11	16,630 2 2	134	138	647	1,250	4	...	...	1	...	30	...	3,069	
District Courts ...	6,606	...	2,075	891	2,376	1,264	420	4,00,289 12 8	38,247 3 1	53	40	444	1,026	197	32	268	15	636	...	13	843	
Chief Courts of districts ...	473	...	84	22	271	96	52	3,39,530 8 6	85,662 1 0	...	1	10	6	2	...	7	1	18	4	1	62	
Total ...	35,978	...	11,844	5,206	13,991	4,937	1,220	10,85,334 0 8	1,01,364 15 4	279	330	2,514	5,508	535	44	653	24	2,237	99	32	7,325	
II.—Revenue (Rent) Courts.																						
Unpaid local tribunals ...	47	...	26	4	9	8	3	1,227 11 0	...	...	...	2	13	...	...	5	...	...	56	...	12	
Other subordinate Courts ...	5,577	...	3,052	545	1,668	312	20	50,221 15 7½	2,712 9 8	43	77	512	1,620	54	2	49	...	20	5	...	1,103	
District Courts ...	9,146	...	4,635	1,097	2,525	889	139	2,00,966 13 6	18,780 6 5	87	74	869	1,618	151	11	135	2	1,021	...	...	1,906	
Chief Courts of districts ...	50	...	37	2	10	1	...	7,475 5 4	29 8 0	...	...	7	24	1	...	1	...	3	...	...	3	
Total ...	14,820	...	7,750	1,648	4,212	1,210	162	2,59,891 13 5½	21,522 8 1	130	151	1,390	3,275	206	13	190	2	1,044	61	...	3,024	
GRAND TOTAL ...	50,798	...	19,594	6,854	18,203	6,147	1,382	13,45,225 14 1½	1,22,887 7 5	409	481	3,904	8,783	741	57	843	26	3,281	160	32	10,349	

IMPERIAL RETURN No. XII.—(CIVIL).

Proceedings in Insolvency under Chapter XX., Act XIV. of 1882, in the Districts of the Province of Oudh during the year 1887, showing the number and result of applications under section 344, and the number of insolvents before the Courts.

Class of court.	Applications for declaration of insolvency.								Number of insolvents discharged during the year under section 355.	Number of insolvents, estates in hands of receivers in which proceedings were finally closed during the year.	*Amount of creditors' claims dealt with during the year.*		*Gross amount of insolvents' assets realized and disbursed.*		Remarks.
	Total number of applications.	Transferred to another province.	*Granted.*		*Rejected.*			Pending at the close of the year.			Admitted.	Satisfied.	Realized during the year.	Disbursed during the year.	
			A receiver being appointed.	A receiver not being appointed.	Penal proceedings under section 359 not being taken.	Sentence of imprisonment being passed under section 359.	Applicant being sent to the Magistrate to be dealt with.								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Chief Courts of districts ...	50	...	3	7	19	1	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	

A.—*Showing original suits instituted, disposed of and pending in Civil Courts in the Province of Oudh in* 1887 *as compared with the figures for* 1886.

District.	Court.	*Instituted.*		*Disposed of.*		*Pending.*		Remarks.
		1886.	1887.	1886.	1887.	1886.	1887.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Lucknow ...	Regular ...	2,206	2,335	2,107	2,433	391	365	The entries in column 4 show fresh institutions only and do not include cases received by transfer or on remand, review or revival during the year.
	Small Cause Court ...	...	366	...	247	...	122	
Unao ...	Regular ...	1,972	2,907	2,008	2,998	305	252	
	Small Cause Court ...	2,697	2,525	2,697	2,534	84	142	
Bara Banki ...	Regular ...	2,431	1,888	2,450	1,958	189	140	
	Small Cause Court ...	401	1,054	399	1,021	14	51	
Sitapur ...	Regular ...	4,762	5,319	4,642	5,519	570	565	
	Small Cause Court ...	117	72	116	86	15	9	
Hardoi ...	Regular ...	2,730	3,181	2,763	3,152	292	388	
	Small Cause Court ...	937	1,408	958	1,346	57	131	
Kheri ...	Regular ...	3,062	2,825	3,136	2,519	395	757	
	Small Cause Court ...	...	396	...	403	...	...	
Fyzabad ...	Regular ...	2,473	3,208	2,479	3,124	401	611	
	Small Cause Court ...	2,002	2,138	2,097	2,135	66	87	
Bahraich ...	Regular ...	4,063	2,716	3,837	2,982	926	519	
	Small Cause Court ...	1,750	3,736	1,849	3,173	...	768	
Gonda ...	Regular ...	4,385	6,852	4,484	5,877	843	2,001	
	Small Cause Court ...	3,066	254	3,517	569	349	31	
Rae Bareli ...	Regular ...	3,035	3,365	2,927	3,394	450	504	
	Small Cause Court ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sultanpur ...	Regular ...	3,109	3,442	3,250	3,452	489	571	
	Small Cause Court ...	829	860	826	868	51	45	
Partabgarh ...	Regular ...	3,621	4,625	3,479	4,186	597	1,099	
	Small Cause Court ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Total ...	49,648	55,472	50,021	53,976	6,484	9,158	

B.—*Showing the work done by District Judges in* 1887 *in the Province of Oudh.*

District.	Original suits.	*Miscellaneous.*		*Appeals.*		Sessions trials.	Criminal appeals.	Criminal applications for revision.	Remarks.
		Applications for execution of decrees.	Judicial.	Regular.	Miscellaneous.				
Lucknow ...	23	303	157	330	57	...	...	...	
Sitapur ...	18	13	109	565	93	...	...	...	
Fyzabad ...	11	28	113	699	133	...	...	...	
Rae Bareli ...	10	35	90	624	9	...	...	...	
Total ...	62	379	469	2,218	292	...	...	...	

C.—*Showing the work done by Subordinate Judges in 1887 in the Districts of the Province of Oudh.*

District	Jurisdiction	Suits				Miscellaneous cases.		Appeals.	
		Withdrawn, &c	Decided *ex parte*.	Contested.	Total	Applications for execution of decrees.	Judicial	Regular	Miscellaneous
Lucknow ...	Regular ...	95	44	179	318	710	215	168	6
	Small Cause Court ..		...					...	...
Unao	Regular	63	16	183	262	243	139	130	2
	Small Cause Court	373	58	181	612	249		...	
Bara Banki ...	Regular	49	7	195	251	427	143	118	.
	Small Cause Court . .	221	57	159	437	221	...	...	
Sitapur .	Regular ...	554	108	394	1,056	516	176	...	.
	Small Cause Court ...	33	21	32	86	35	13		
Hardoi	Regular	103	39	225	367	454	191	...	.
	Small Cause Court	746	176	348	1,270	562	69	...	..
Kheri ...	Regular	558	69	234	861	354	97		...
	Small Cause Court	271	45	87	403	113	..		.
Fyzabad	Regular	164	27	268	459	397	80	68	5
	Small Cause Court . .	860	216	477	1,553	576	67		...
Bahraich ...	Regular	156	19	180	355	201	66	68	4
	Small Cause Court .	1,760	522	891	3,173	943	236		..
Gonda ...	Regular	87	19	185	291	205	87	206	4
	Small Cause Court ...	133	10	54	197	39	4	...	...
Rae Bareli ...	Regular	208	61	336	605	417	151	126	
	Small Cause Court ...	...	.		...	...		...	...
Sultanpur ..	Regular	182	15	298	495	345	137	97	2
	Small Cause Court ...	408	126	334	868	319	28	.	...
Partabgarh	Regular ...	1,175	199	499	1,873	1,107	242	.	.
	Small Cause Court ..	...	...	...	...	...		...	.
	Total ...	8,199	1,854	5,739	15,792	8,553	2,141	978	23

D.—*Showing the work done by Munsifs in 1887 in the Districts of the Province of Oudh.*

District.	Munsifi.	Jurisdiction.	Suits. Withdrawn, compromised, confessed, &c.	Suits. Decided *ex parte*.	Suits. Contested.	Suits. Total.	Miscellaneous. Applications for execution of decrees.	Miscellaneous. Judicial.
Lucknow ...	Munsifi North ...	Regular ...	561	112	469	1,142	662	172
		Small Cause Court...	56	4	30	90	11	...
	Munsifi South ...	Regular ...	424	88	411	923	865	207
		Small Cause Court...	96	25	36	157	41	...
		Total ...	1,137	229	946	2,312	1,579	379
Unao ...	Unao ...	Regular ...	288	58	209	555	403	204
		Small Cause Court...	799	113	223	1,135	249	...
	Purwa ...	Regular ...	886	135	282	1,303	618	126
	Safipur ...	Ditto ...	263	62	329	654	555	124
		Small Cause Court...	462	68	257	787	281	56
		Total ...	2,698	436	1,300	4,434	2,106	510
Bara Banki ...	Ramsanehighát ...	Regular ...	462	44	245	751	484	78
		Small Cause Court...	414	43	127	584	46	1
	Fatehpur ...	Regular ...	395	76	472	943	505	140
		Total ...	1,271	163	844	2,278	1,035	219
Sitapur ...	Sitapur ...	Regular ...	1,173	311	611	2,095	799	219
	Biswan ...	Ditto ...	776	416	798	1,990	720	237
		Total ...	1,949	727	1,409	4,085	1,519	456
Hardoi ...	Shahabad ...	Regular ...	519	133	384	1,036	500	142
		Small Cause Court...	41	16	19	76	...	...
	Bilgram ...	Regular ...	372	92	272	736	470	108
		Total ...	932	241	675	1,848	970	250
Kheri ...	Muhamdi ...	Regular ...	612	56	217	885	464	101
Fyzabad ...	Fyzabad ...	Regular ...	1,013	87	853	1,953	819	180
	Akbarpur ...	Ditto ...	272	61	368	701	421	48
		Small Cause Court...	309	71	202	582	53	6
		Total ...	1,594	219	1,423	3,236	1,293	234
Bahraich ...	Kaisarganj ...	Regular ...	1,631	300	591	2,522	932	266
Gonda ...	Gonda ...	Regular ...	932	225	512	1,669	972	219
		Small Cause Court...	216	66	90	372	66	30
	Additional, Gonda ...	Regular ...	666	154	371	1,191	485	103
	Utraula ...	Ditto ...	835	135	530	1,500	624	155
	Tarabganj ...	Ditto ...	524	142	560	1,226	699	139
		Total ...	3,173	722	2,063	5,958	2,846	646
Rae Bareli ...	Rae Bareli ...	Regular ...	560	145	495	1,200	631	170
	Dalmau ...	Ditto ...	673	221	375	1,269	626	149
		Total ...	1,233	366	870	2,469	1,257	319
Sultanpur ...	Sultanpur ...	Regular ...	792	132	840	1,764	837	216
	Musafirkhana ...	Ditto ...	567	94	532	1,193	529	99
		Total ...	1,359	226	1,372	2,957	1,366	315
Partábgarh ...	Partábgarh ...	Regular ...	699	211	411	1,321	607	134
	Kunda ...	Ditto ...	538	117	337	992	599	127
		Total ...	1.237	328	748	2,313	1,206	261
		GRAND TOTAL ...	18,826	4,013	12,458	35,297	16,573	3,956

E.—*Showing the work done by Courts of Small Causes in 1887 in the Districts of the Province of Oudh*

District.	Court.	Jurisdiction.	Suits. Withdrawn, compromised, confessed, &c.	Suits. Decided *ex parte*.	Suits. Contested.	Suits. Total.	Miscellaneous cases. Applications for execution of decrees.	Miscellaneous cases. Judicial.	Appeals. Regular.	Appeals. Miscellaneous.
Lucknow City Small Cause Court.	City Small Cause Court,	S. C.	3,112	1,574	2,031	6,717	5,515	230	...	...
Lucknow ...	Lucknow Cantonment,	S. C. & C. M.	179	56	96	331	175	6	...	...
Fyzabad ...	Fyzabad Cantonment...	S. C. & C. M.	29	33	37	99	39	1	...	...
	Total ...		3,320	1,663	2,164	7,147	5,729	237	...	...

G.—Showing the Court-fees (other than process-fees) realized in the Civil Courts in the Province of Oudh during the year 1887.

District.	*Ad valorem fees.*			*Fixed fees.*		Gross fees realized.	Refunds under sections 10, 13, 14 and 15, Act VII. of 1870, and under Notification No. 2768, dated 30th April, 1876, and under Rule 58 or C. O. No. 12 of 1882.	Net fees realized.	Remarks.
	On plaints, memoranda of appeals and applications for review of judgment.	On copies and translations.	On certificates, probates and letters of administration.	On plaints and memoranda of appeals.	On other documents.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	
Lucknow	81,014 4 0	1,467 0 0	3,945 0 0	945 2 0	5,683 7 0	93,054 13 0	579 8 0	92,475 5 0	
Unao	31,383 5 4	1,026 7 0	641 0 0	390 0 0	4,505 11 0	37,946 7 4	60 2 0	37,886 5 4	
Bara Banki	25,194 13 0	577 14 0	371 0 0	420 0 0	985 4 0	27,548 15 0	...	27,548 15 0	
Sitapur	38,430 8 0	1,230 2 0	479 0 0	336 8 0	3,784 9 0	44,260 11 0	1,115 4 0	43,145 7 0	
Hardoi	26,155 5 0	652 0 0	...	395 0 0	3,880 14 0	31,083 3 0	...	31,083 3 0	
Kheri	11,682 9 0	113 4 0	...	100 0 0	1,551 9 0	13,447 6 0	...	13,447 6 0	
Fyzabad	47,648 0 0	3,362 5 0	924 8 0	1,065 0 0	5,131 8 0	58,131 5 0	741 2 0	57,390 3 0	
Bahraich	21,240 4 0	497 1 0	...	380 0 0	1,368 9 0	23,485 14 0	...	23,485 14 0	
Gonda	29,988 14 0	1,386 2 0	...	945 0 0	2,457 14 0	34,777 14 0	24 0 0	34,753 14 0	
Rae Bareli	29,672 6 0	2,318 13 0	4,213 0 0	420 8 0	4,593 12 0	41,218 7 0	366 6 0	40,852 1 0	
Sultanpur	21,944 0 0	1,247 7 0	...	420 0 0	3,282 13 0	25,994 4 0	54 6 0	25,939 14 0	
Partábgarh	24,820 0 0	837 15 0	...	185 0 0	2,778 9 0	28,621 8 0	...	28,621 8 0	
Total ...	3,89,174 4 4	14,716 6 0	10,573 8 0	6,002 2 0	39,004 7 0	4,59,570 11 4	2,940 12 0	4,56,629 15 4	
High Court of the Province of Oudh.	21,384 12 0	14 8 0	...	5,638 12 0	...	27,038 0 0	...	27,038 0 0	
GRAND TOTAL ...	4,10,559 0 4	14,730 14 0	10,573 8 0	11,640 14 0	39,004 7 0	4,86,608 11 4	2,940 12 0	4,83,667 15 4	

H.—*Showing the Income and Expenditure of the Civil Courts in the Province of Oudh during the year 1887.*

District.	Income.								Expenditure.								
	Net value of stamps exclusive of those used to denote process-fees	Duty and penalties on instruments not duly stamped.	Fines.	Process-fees. Fees for employment of amins.	Process-fees. Other fees.	Judicial record fund.	Sale proceeds of unclaimed property of intestates (Regulation 5 of 1790).	Total.	Salaries of officers presiding over Civil Courts and of their establishments, the full salaries of the Judges and establishment of High Courts, and half salaries of District and Sessions Judges and their subordinates who are employed on criminal as well as the civil side being entered.	Process-serving establishment. (a) Central nazir, nazirs, bailiffs and nazarat office chaprasis.	Process-serving establishment. (b) Process-serving peons.	Amín establishment.	Judicial record fund.	Total.	Surplus.	Deficit.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		12	13	14	15	16
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Lucknow ...	92,475 5 0	249 8 0	8 0 0	...	14,405 2 0	6,611 14 6	...	1,13,749 13 6	64,428 5 0	3,200 11 7	6,837 1 11	...	3,202 14 1	77,669 0 7	36,080 12 11	...
Unao ...	37,886 5 4	154 12 0	103 0 0	...	8,708 14 0	3,485 13 9	...	50,338 13 1	22,992 9 9	1,134 12 0	4,337 7 5	...	1,746 15 8	30,211 12 10	20,127 0 3	...
Bara Banki ...	27,548 15 0	363 9 0	29 0 0	...	6,103 10 0	2,639 2 0	...	36,684 4 0	15,784 8 0	886 0 0	3,037 7 2	...	1,249 4 3	20,957 3 5	15,727 0 7	...
Sitapur ...	43,145 7 0	43 2 0	19 0 0	...	6,975 6 0	3,062 0 0	...	53,244 15 0	35,231 12 3	1,100 0 0	3,688 11 7	...	1,647 5 0	41,667 12 10	11,577 2 2	...
Hardoi ...	31,083 3 0	173 10 0	6 4 0	...	7,681 15 0	3,136 2 9	...	42,081 2 9	17,784 1 9	1,020 0 0	3,734 7 9	...	1,741 14 8	24,280 8 2	17,800 10 7	...
Kheri ...	13,447 6 0	32 0 0	38 8 0	...	3,758 15 0	867 2 0	...	18,143 15 0	12,290 7 8	776 0 0	2,030 11 5	...	637 5 5	15,734 8 6	2,409 6 6	...
Fyzabad ...	57,390 3 0	598 5 0	43 4 0	...	7,868 1 0	4,274 9 3	...	70,179 6 3	42,416 7 5	1,080 0 0	3,863 15 8	...	2,001 0 6	49,361 7 7	20,817 14 8	...
Bahraich ...	23,485 14 0	123 4 0	47 8 0	...	6,618 6 0	1,388 12 0	...	31,663 12 0	11,864 9 6	659 12 0	2,780 2 1	...	622 10 0	15,927 1 7	15,736 10 5	...
Gonda ...	34,753 14 0	337 3 0	119 12 0	...	9,606 10 0	2,074 0 0	...	46,891 7 0	21,500 2 11	1,310 6 0	4,398 0 1	...	1,090 9 7	28,299 2 7	18,592 4 5	...
Rae Bareli ...	40,852 1 0	839 14 0	0 4 0	...	6,720 10 0	3,353 6 0	...	51,766 3 0	34,269 10 10	1,319 0 0	3,050 3 3	...	1,714 0 6	40,352 14 7	11,413 4 5	...
Sultanpur ...	25,939 14 0	457 12 0	7 10 0	...	6,743 14 0	1,968 10 0	...	35,117 12 0	19,759 8 5	900 0 0	2,851 11 8		951 13 10	24,463 1 11	10,654 10 1	...
Partábgarh ...	28,621 8 0	204 13 0	..	...	8,056 2 0	1,314 2 0	...	38,196 9 0	15,997 4 5	900 0 0	3,291 10 2	...	795 6 7	20,984 5 2	17,212 3 10	..
Total ...	4,56,629 15 4	3,577 12 0	427 2 0	...	93,247 9 0	34,175 10 3	...	5,88,058 0 7	3,14,319 7 11	14,286 9 7	43,901 10 2	..	17,401 4 1	3,89,908 15 9	1,98,149 0 10	...
High Court of Province of Oudh.	27,038 0 0	...	...	...	1,478 4 0	1,644 6 0	...	30,160 10 0	62,569 8 11	240 0 0	...	...	1,485 0 3	64,294 9 2	...	34,133 15 2
Grand Total.	4,83,667 15 4	3,577 12 0	427 2 0	...	94,725 13 0	35,820 0 3	...	6,18,218 10 7	3,76,889 0 10	14,526 9 7	43,901 10 2	...	18,886 4 4	4,54,203 8 11	1,98,149 0 10	34,133 15 2

PROVINCIAL RETURN No. XV.—(Civil and Rent).

Showing the detention of witnesses before Civil and Rent Courts in suits, miscellaneous cases, and in cases of execution of decree in the Courts of the Districts of the Province of Oudh for the year 1887.

Courts	Discharged after being in attendance—											
	1 day.	2 days.	3 days.	4 days.	5 days.	6 days.	7 days.	8 days.	9 days	16 to 23 days.	Total.	Remarks.
Civil Courts.												
Lucknow	14,747	427	88	14	9	3	5	6	11		15,310	
Sitapur	9,953	291	46	2	..	...	...	...	...	..	10,292	
Fyzabad	14,404	207	31	12	6		.	...	.	.	14,660	
Rae Bareli ...	13,189	483	92	18	6	1	..	.	...		13,789	
Total	52,293	1,408	257	46	21	4	5	6	11	...	54,051	
Small Cause Courts												
Lucknow City Small Cause Court.	3,143	122	.	...	...	...	..	...	...	.	3,265	
Lucknow Cantonment Small Cause Court	229	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	229	
Fyzabad Cantonment Small Cause Court.	37	.	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	..	37	
Total ...	3,409	122	...		...	..	...	..	..	...	3,531	
Rent Courts												
Lucknow	976	9	22	...	..	...		...	...	...	1,007	
Unao ...	2,191	5	...	...	..	...	...	...	..		2,196	
Bara Banki	853	48	14		.	...	...	..	...		915	
Sitapur ...	536	7	.	.	...	.		...	...		543	
Hardoi	1,404	32	6	..		...	..	.	..	...	1,442	
Kheri ...	565	44	6	...	..	...	...		...	...	615	
Fyzabad ...	1,274	2	.	...	...	.	...	...	...	.	1,276	
Bahraich	712	19	.		...			...	...	...	731	
Gonda ..	1,728	23	.	...	...	..	...				1,751	
Rae Bareli	910	23	2	...	..	.	...	.	..	..	935	
Sultanpur ...	1,443	14	1	...	..	...	.	...	.		1,458	
Partábgarh ...	1,351	35	3	.	.	.	..			... ...	1,389	
Total .	13,943	261	54	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	14,258	

PROVINCIAL RETURN No. XVI.—(Civil and Rent).

Showing the Receipts and Disbursements on account of processes in the Courts of the Province of Oudh during the year 1887.

District.	Number of servers employed.	Aggregate number of processes served.	Average number per server.	Receipts: Balance from last year.	Receipts: Value of fees received within the year.	Receipts: Remittances from other Provinces.	Receipts: Total.	Disbursements: Pay of supervising establishment including nazarat and bailiff.	Disbursements: Pay of peons.	Disbursements: Pension fund 12 per cent.	Disbursements: Contingencies and refunds.	Disbursements: Total.	Surplus or deficit.	Remarks.
					Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	
Civil.														
District Judge, Lucknow	155	67,519	435	...	22,499 14 0	...	22,499 14 0	3,817 7 7	10,986 7 7	1,776 7 5	441 8 6	17,021 15 1	+5,477 14 11	
Ditto, Sitapur	134	52,691	391	...	19,029 4 0	8 6 0	19,037 10 0	3,016 0 0	9,435 8 4	1,132 4 2	411 2 0	13,994 14 6	+5,042 11 6	
Ditto, Fyzabad	150	77,064	516	...	23,987 13 0	8 2 0	23,995 15 0	3,050 2 0	10,657 6 11	1,644 14 4	393 0 4	15,745 7 7	+8,250 7 5	
Ditto, Rae Bareli	131	59,539	551	...	21,520 10 0	..	21,520 10 0	2,879 0 0	9,193 9 1	1,467 3 1	276 15 3	13,816 11 5	+7,703 14 7	
Total ...	570	2,56,813	450	...	87,037 9 0	16 8 0	87,054 1 0	12,762 9 7	40,272 15 11	6,020 13 0	1,522 10 1	60,579 0 7	+26,475 0 5	
Small Cause Court, City Lucknow ...	44	23,987	545	...	6,431 2 0	1 0 0	6,432 2 0	1,260 0 0	3,093 8 11	522 5 9	60 0 0	4,935 14 8	+1,496 3 4	
Ditto Cantonment, Lucknow. .	2	1,054	527	...	285 10 0	...	285 10 0	144 0 0	132 0 0	33 1 8	...	309 1 8	—23 7 8	
Ditto ditto Fyzabad ...	1	392	392	...	73 0 0	2 4 0	75 4 0	...	71 0 0	8 8 3	3 2 0	82 10 3	—7 6 3	
Total ...	47	25,433	541	...	3,789 12 0	3 4 0	6,793 0 0	1,404 0 0	3,296 8 11	563 15 8	63 2 0	5,327 10 7	+1,465 5 5	
Rent.														
Deputy Commissioner, Lucknow ...	24	3,969	415	...	5,162 10 0	...	5,162 10 0	1,665 10 9	1,690 10 5	402 12 1	251 4 0	4,010 5 3	+1,152 4 9	
Ditto, Unao ...	32	15,256	476	...	4,227 7 0	...	4,227 7 0	1,410 0 0	2,333 1 8	449 1 0	79 11 0	4,271 13 8	—44 6 8	
Ditto, Bara Banki ...	25	8,665	347	...	2,500 13 0	...	2,500 13 0	1,171 0 0	1,902 6 10	368 12 3	...	3,442 3 1	—941 6 1	
Ditto, Sitapur ...	12	3,762	314	...	1,806 8 0	...	1,806 8 0	1,356 0 0	862 0 0	266 2 7	58 10 6	2,542 13 1	—736 5 1	
Ditto, Hardoi ...	24	9,580	399	...	2,620 8 0	...	2,620 8 0	1,416 0 0	1,704 3 6	374 6 9	...	3,494 10 3	—874 2 3	
Ditto, Kheri ...	11	3,884	353	...	1,940 3 0	...	1,940 3 0	480 0 0	804 7 9	154 2 2	5 0 0	1,443 9 11	+496 9 1	
Ditto, Fyzabad ...	47	12,458	265	...	5,482 2 10	...	5,482 2 10	1,468 0 0	3,434 8 9	412 2 0	18 2 0	5,332 12 0	+149 6 10	
Ditto, Bahraich ...	14	7,968	569	...	2,741 14 0	...	2,741 14 0	1,032 0 0	1,055 6 2	250 7 9	38 8 0	2,376 5 11	+365 8 1	
Ditto, Gonda ...	45	21,787	484	...	5,057 15 0	...	5,057 15 0	852 0 0	3,158 3 4	481 3 5	200 0 0	4,691 6 9	+366 8 3	
Ditto, Rae Bareli ...	23	8,048	349	...	2,957 1 0	...	2,957 1 0	876 0 0	1,682 6 10	307 0 2	123 9 0	2,989 0 0	—31 15 0	
Ditto, Sultanpur ...	49	19,757	403	...	5,427 6 0	19 4 0	5,446 10 0	576 0 0	3,479 14 7	486 11 5	...	4,542 10 0	+904 0 0	
Ditto, Partábgarh ...	34	13,784	405	...	3,562 13 0	2 8 0	3,565 5 0	552 0 0	2,441 8 0	359 3 4	...	3,352 11 4	+212 9 8	
Total ...	340	1,34,912	396	...	43,487 4 10	21 12 0	43,509 0 10	12,854 10 9	24,548 13 1	4,312 0 11	774 12 6	42,490 5 3	+1,018 11 7	

PROVINCIAL RETURN No. XVIII.—(Civil and Rent).

Showing Receipts and Disbursements on account of Sale Commission Fund in the Districts of the Province of Oudh during the year 1887.

	Receipts.	Disbursements.			Balance.	Payable to Nazirs, &c., under para. 15, Circular No. 24 of 1872.	Remarks.
	Value of fees received within the year.	Pay of peons.	Contingencies.	Total.			
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	
Civil.							
Lucknow	5,891 3 5	497 1 0	153 7 0	650 8 0	5,240 11 5	1,309 4 9	
Sitapur	1,746 7 1	421 4 8	...	421 4 8	1,325 2 5	331 4 6	
Fyzabad	1,837 6 11	370 5 5	0 9 6	370 14 11	1,466 8 0	366 9 11	
Rae Bareli	1,012 4 10	504 0 0	...	504 0 0	508 4 10	127 1 2	
Total	10,487 6 3	1,792 11 1	154 0 6	1,946 11 7	8,540 10 8	2,134 4 4	
Small Cause Courts.							
Lucknow City Small Cause Court	313 0 9	144 0 0	...	144 0 0	169 0 9	42 4 2	
Ditto Cantonment ditto	1 11 3	...	...	...	1 11 3	0 6 9	
Fyzabad ditto ditto	33 2 0	...	...	...	33 2 0	8 4 6	
Total	347 14 0	144 0 0	...	144 0 0	203 14 0	50 15 5	
Rent.							
Lucknow	196 4 0	...	...	...	196 4 0	49 1 0	
Unao	403 6 0	..	...	...	403 6 0	100 13 6	
Bara Banki	73 3 7	...	...	...	73 3 7	18 4 11	
Sitapur...	135 7 3	72 0 0	2 12 9	74 12 9	60 10 6	15 2 7	
Hardoi	237 0 6	...	...	...	237 0 6	59 4 1	
Kheri	108 14 3	...	...	...	108 14 3	27 3 6	
Fyzabad	585 14 6	288 0 0	...	288 0 0	297 14 6	74 7 7	
Bahraich	257 9 10	...	...	...	257 9 10	64 6 5	
Gonda...	311 7 2	...	...	...	311 7 2	77 13 8	
Rae Bareli	326 4 4	...	...	...	326 4 4	81 9 1	
Sultanpur	387 15 3	180 0 0	...	180 0 0	207 15 3	51 15 9	
Partábgarh	194 7 0	72 0 0	...	72 0 0	122 7 0	30 9 9	
Total	3,217 13 8	612 0 0	2 12 9	614 12 9	2,603 0 11	650 11 10	

ORDERS OF GOVERNMENT.

No. $\frac{842}{\text{VII-119B}}$ OF 1888.

FROM

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

N.-W. PROVINCES AND OUDH,

TO

THE JUDICIAL COMMISSIONER IN OUDH.

DATED LUCKNOW, THE 14TH NOVEMBER, 1888.

SIR,

JUDICIAL DEPT. (CIVIL).

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your No. 1342, dated 31st August last, submitting the returns relating to Civil Justice in Oudh for the year 1887.

2. The whole number of civil suits instituted during the year was 62,735, with an aggregate value of Rs. 94,34,051, showing a large increase since 1885, when there were 52,201 suits with an aggregate value of Rs. 59,58,453. In 1886 the number was 55,568 and the value Rs. 68,11,342. The average value of each suit was Rs. 150, and 47,158 of the claims, or 77 per cent. of the whole number instituted, were for smaller sums than Rs. 50. In the North-Western Provinces the average value of each suit was Rs. 227, and suits for less than Rs. 50 only contributed 54 per cent. to the whole number. Of suits for less than Rs. 10, there were only half as many as in Oudh, though the population is three times as great. In the former Province there was one civil suit to every 310 persons; in the latter one to every 180.

3. In the ordinary civil courts (*i.e.*, exclusive of small cause courts, and of your own court) the number of institutions was 42,667, or 5,180 more than the number in 1886, and 8,361 more than in 1885; the increase in the two years having been nearly 25 per cent. The Munsifs in the Fyzabad Judgeship had the heaviest work, Kaisarganj showing the highest total number of suits disposed of (2,522), and Fyzabad the highest number of contested suits (853). The increase in the number of suits was chiefly in suits on contract: of which there were in 1887, 13,844 suits on contract in writing and 7,786 on contract not in writing. In the work done, the increase has chiefly been in suits withdrawn, compromised, confessed, or decided *ex-parte*. The following totals of the contested suits disposed of are taken from statements C and D of the years respectively:—

	Contested suits.	
	1885.	1887.
By Subordinate Judges	5,804	5,739
By Munsifs	11,591	12,458

The average number of contested suits disposed of by each Subordinate Judge was 478, the number in North-Western Provinces having been 168. In the latter Province, however, the suits are for higher values, and the average number of appeals decided by each Subordinate Judge

is 290, as compared with 63 in Oudh. There are some indications that the proportions of cases withdrawn or decided *ex-parte* tend to vary directly with the total number disposed of. In Bahraich, for instance, where the number disposed of was higher than in any other district, they were three-fourths of the whole number; the provincial average being two-thirds. There were 7,772 cases pending at the end of the year to 5,848 in 1886. The average duration of contested suits fell from 74 days in 1886 to 63 days in 1887. The litigation in Gonda was exceptionally heavy, but it appears to have been chiefly in the courts of the Munsifs; and though the Subordinate Judge of that district had more appeals to dispose of than any other court of the same class in the Province, this does not, as you say, afford a sufficient justification of the excessive duration of each original contested suit disposed of by him. This was 268 days in contested, and no less than 146 in uncontested cases. The Subordinate Judge has since been transferred to the executive service. The average duration (212 days) of a suit in District Judges' courts is high, being 12 days in excess of 1886. The number of pending appeals has risen from 885 to 1,222, the Subordinate Judge of Gonda above mentioned being responsible mainly for this difference.

4. The total number of appeals for hearing by District and Subordinate Judges rose from 4,222 to 4,413. The percentage of contested appeals, in which the lower court's order was upheld, was 47 and 42 in 1886 and 1887 respectively. The results would have been more clearly exhibited if the percentages had been struck on the number of cases disposed of instead of on the whole number for disposal. Of the total number disposed of, 64 per cent. were confirmed. The average duration of an appeal was 107½ days, compared with 60 days in 1886: you mention the District Judges of Rae Bareli and Fyzabad as showing the longest periods.

5. In the Judicial Commissioner's court there were 589 appeals for disposal. In 200 contested appeals, or 67 per cent. of the number disposed of after contest, the orders were upheld, 47 per cent. of the whole (*viz.*, 277 cases) remained pending. Besides the regular appellate work, 108 miscellaneous civil appeals and 139 applications for revision under section 622, Civil Procedure Code, were disposed of by the Judicial Commissioner. The increase in the average duration of the term of miscellaneous appeals in the Judges' courts (paragraph 26) is not satisfactory.

6. Twenty-six thousand and ninety-three applications for execution of decree were filed in the ordinary civil courts, being 1,424 more than in 1886. The percentage of wholly infructuous applications rose from 35·38 to 37·62: pending cases also rose from 13·91 to 15·98 per cent. It is, as you say, an unmistakeable sign of increased work that 54,051 witnesses were examined in the civil courts, against 47,152 in 1886. A good amount of work appears to have been done (paragraph 32) in weeding records. In Rae Bareli and Partabgarh, the attention of the officers concerned should be requested to the remarks in paragraph 32 of your Report.

7. Twenty thousand and seventy-one suits of Small Cause Court description were filed in 1887, the figures showing an increase of 1,342 in Small Cause Courts proper, and of 648 in courts of Munsifs and Subordinate Judges exercising Small Cause Court powers. The total value (Rs. 5,99,742) of the subject matter showed an increase of Rs. 1,09,472; the average value of each suit rising from Rs. 27-1-0 to Rs. 29-14-0. The duration of these cases slightly increased, as also did the number of cases left pending at the end of the year: these features appear in most of the Oudh litigation of 1887. Here also the percentage of wholly infructuous applications for execution of decree increased (from 38·83 to 42·22 per cent.): the total amount realized, however, rose from Rs. 1,06,596 to Rs. 1,17,011.

8. The total rent litigation decreased in nearly all districts on the introduction, from 1st January, 1887, of Act XXII of 1886. The decrease was due to a very large falling-off in the number of applications to contest notices of ejectment: and His Honor is glad to note your opinion that the new Act appears, so far, to have diminished friction between the agricultural classes, and that it has hitherto raised few questions of legal intricacy. There was an increase in the number of suits for arrears of rent, attributable partly to inferior harvests: and also in the number of cases for ejectment or recovery of possession, but part of this consisted of more numerous suits between cultivators regarding encroachments by each other. Twenty-nine thousand and forty-one cases of all kinds came before the rent courts, against 35,027 in 1886; and 26,828 were disposed of during the year. Of these no less than 11,597, or 43 per cent., were contested. The great majority of disputed claims were decreed in favour of the plaintiff, the proportion having been 75 per cent. Nineteen thousand five hundred and forty-seven, or 67 per cent., of the institutions were for arrears of rent.

9. The information given in your paragraphs 47—51 appears to show that there is no reason to apprehend any other cause for the large number of decisions passed without hearing both sides, beyond the convenience of the parties concerned. The figures of appellate rent work call for no remark; but the average duration of such cases increased considerably—from 35 to 49 days in Deputy Commissioners' courts, and from 93 to 150 days in Commissioners' courts. This increase is said by you to be "probably due to want of familiarity of the courts with the new Act." The increase in Commissioners' courts is excessive, and is in considerable measure due to the duration of appeals in the court of the Commissioner of Fyzabad. Your attention is called to the duration of the terms of these appeals in all Commissioners' courts, and especially in that of the Commissioner of Fyzabad. The number of rental appeals instituted in his court was in excess of the number instituted in the other three Commissionerships taken together, and the number disposed of about the same. The great average duration of each suit in that Division (210 days) is thus explained; but it should be possible, by greater method in the transaction of business, to reduce it materially. Four hundred and forty-six rent appeals were disposed of by yourself, of which 93 were rejected or dismissed, and in 212 cases the

decrees were confirmed. There were 14,820 applications to the courts for execution of decrees, or 2,372 more than in 1886. The results were good, no less than 52·29 of the whole number of applications having been satisfied in full. The most noticeable fluctuation was an increase from 281 to 1,044 in the number of cases in which possession was given of immoveables. The decrease in the number of miscellaneous cases from 19,317 to 5,702 affords satisfactory evidence of the effect of the new Act in diminishing rent litigation.

10. The total receipts of civil courts in Oudh (Statement H) rose from Rs. 5,85,773 in 1886 to Rs. 6,18,218 in 1887, the charges being Rs. 4,62,961 and Rs. 4,54,203 respectively in each year. Receipts from process fees in the civil (including Small Cause) courts were Rs. 94,725. In the rent courts processes yielded Rs. 43,509, against Rs. 71,512 in 1886. The decrease was due to the number of processes falling from 255,737 to 134,912. Such reductions as were possible were made in the expenditure: but the surplus fell from Rs. 21,701 in 1886 to Rs. 1,018 in 1887. This was probably inevitable; but if the decrease in processes is of a permanent nature, arrangements should be made to provide against the recurrence of a considerable deficit such as is shown by the Bara Banki, Sitapur, and Hardoi districts.

11. The working of the courts in Oudh appears to have been good throughout the year. I am to say that His Honor notices with satisfaction your commendation of the officials attached to the Judicial Commissioner's court.

I have the honor to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

T. W. HOLDERNESS,

Secy. to Govt., N.-W. P. and Oudh.